

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SALT T 00483 172133Z

62

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SUBJECT: AMB. JOHNSON'S STATEMENT OF DEC. 17, 1975 (SALT TWO-879)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY AMB. JOHNSON
AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF DEC. 17, 1975, INCLUDING PROPOSED
LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLE XIX.

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOHNSON

DECEMBER 17, 1975

MR. MINISTER

I

THIS SESSION BEGAN ON JULY 2 AND THE DELEGATIONS HAVE NOW
MET THIRTY-FIVE TIMES OVER THE COURSE OF THE INTERVENING TWENTY-FIVE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SALT T 00483 172133Z

WEEKS. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE HAD NUMEROUS MEETINGS OF THE CHIEFS

OF DELEGATIONS AND THE DRAFTING WORKING GROUP, AS WELL AS MANY INFORMAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS. THIS, OF COURSE, IS NOT BY ITSELF A MEASURE OF THE EFFORT THAT THE DELEGATIONS HAVE DEVOTED TO THE TASKS BEFORE US. NOR DOES IT PROVIDE A MEASUREMENT OF THE PROGRESS THE TWO SIDES HAVE ACHIEVED.

ANY SUCH MEASUREMENT MUST TAKE NOTE OF THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN DEVELOPING THE JOINT DRAFT TEXT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. A COMPARISON WITH THE FIRST JOINT TEXT, OF MAY 7, MAKES EVIDENT THE SUBSTANTIAL NATURE OF THIS PROGRESS. THE TWO SIDES HAVE AGREED ON A NUMBER OF PROVISIONS IN THE TEXT, MADE MORE PRECISE THE AREAS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN US, AND CLARIFIED MANY OF THOSE AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT THAT REMAIN. IN THIS REGARD, I WANT PARTICULARLY TO CONGRATULATE THE DRAFTING WORKING GROUP FOR ITS WORK IN DEVELOPING THE TEXT DURING THE COURSE OF THE SESSION.

THERE ARE STILL ISSUES WITHIN THE SCOPE OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH ARE UNRESOLVED. EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE NOT REACHED AGREEMENT IN THESE AREAS, I BELIEVE OUR DISCUSSIONS AND EXCHANGES HAVE BEEN USEFUL IN DEFINING THE ISSUES IN A WAY THAT SHOULD FACILITATE THEIR RESOLUTION. I AM SURE THAT YOUR DELEGATION, AS WELL AS OURS, WILL BE DISCUSSING THESE ISSUES IN OUR RESPECTIVE CAPITALS DURING THE RECESS AND THAT BOTH SIDES WILL BE WORKING HARD IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT THEIR RESOLUTION. IT IS MY HOPE THAT WITH POSITIVE EFFORTS BY BOTH SIDES, THE REMAINING DIFFERENCES CAN INDEED BE RESOLVED IN AN EQUITABLE MANNER.

II

MR. MINISTER, ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE U.S. DELEGATION, I WANT TO EXTEND TO YOU, MR. MINISTER, AND TO THE MEMBERS AND THE STAFF OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION OUR SEASON'S GREETINGS AND OUR BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE AND PLEASANT TRIP HOME. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RESUMING OUR NEGOTIATIONS UPON OUR RETURN TO GENEVA.

I WISH TO TURN FIRST TO ARTICLE XIX, FORMERLY ARTICLE XX, WHICH DEALS WITH THE DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT AND DATE OF EFFECTIVENESS OF SPECIFIC PROVISIONS, AS WELL AS OTHER RELATED MATTERS. AGREEMENT ON THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN REACHED IN THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SALT T 00483 172133Z

DRAFTING WORKING GROUP. I PROPOSE THAT THIS AGREEMENT BE CONFIRMED BY THE CHIEFS OF DELEGATION AND REFERENDUM TO GOVERNMENTS. THE ARTICLE AS AGREED IN THE DRAFTING WORKING GROUP READS AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE XIX

1. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL ENTER INTO FORCE ON

THE DAY OF THE EXCHANGE OF INSTRUMENTS OF APPROVAL ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES OF EACH PARTY. IT SHALL BE EFFECTIVE FROM OCTOBER 3, 1977, EXCEPT THAT SPECIFIC PROVISIONS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, AS AGREED BY THE PARTIES, SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THIS AGREEMENT. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1985, UNLESS REPLACED EARLIER BY AN AGREEMENT FURTHER LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

2. EACH PARTY SHALL, IN EXERCISING ITS NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, HAVE THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW FROM THIS AGREEMENT IF IT DECIDES THAT EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS AGREEMENT HAVE JEOPARDIZED ITS SUPREME INTERESTS. IT SHALL GIVE NOTICE OF ITS DECISION TO THE OTHER PARTY SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO WITHDRAWAL FROM THE AGREEMENT. SUCH NOTICE SHALL INCLUDE A STATEMENT OF THE EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS THE NOTIFYING PARTY REGARDS AS HAVING JEOPARDIZED ITS SUPREME INTERESTS.

JOHNSON

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